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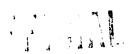
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## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO:

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Art Unit 1632

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Bahramian et al.

Appln. No.:

09/472,558

Filed:

December 27, 1999

Invention:

MUTING GENE ACTIVITY USING A TRANSGENIC NUCLEIC ACID

Grp./Art Unit:1632

Examiner:

Paras, Jr., P.

Docket No:

2498/101 (new)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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Sonia K. Guterman, Ph.D. 

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

## AMENDED RESPONSE B

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2001 and the telephonic conference dated Sept. 7, 2001 with the Examiners, please amend the application as follows. In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-10, 12, 19-21, 26-27, 50 and 52, and amend claims 11, 17-18, 22 and 24 as follows:

- 11. (Twice amended) A method for muting expression of an endogenous gene in a cultured population of animal cells, the method comprising the steps of:
- providing a muting nucleic acid composition having a sequence that is (a) homologous to a sequence in the endogenous gene; and
- delivering the muting nucleic acid into the population of cells under (b) conditions devoid of a selection for integration of the nucleic acid into a chromosomal site, so that expression of the endogenous gene in the population as a whole is inhibited even though such gene's sequence is not therein disrupted.